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(a) that the nation was without a supernatural beginning; (b) that it slowly emerged from barbarism;" (3) that in depending upon the internal evidence, these critics neglect external evidence; (4) that these critical theories "minimize epoch-making men"—there could be no Mosaism without a Moses; (5) that the time has by no means come, when the history of Israel may be reconstructed.

All will be interested in noting the strictly orthodox views with which Prof. Curtiss closes his work: "There are three things which we venture to maintain in closing: (1) that internal criticism cannot be decisive as to the beginning and course of Israel's history; (2) that further investigations and studies concerning the ancient people of civilization, such as the Egyptians, Assyrians, Phœnicians and Hittites, as well as respecting the Holy Land, will shed great light on Israel's history; (3) that the traditional construction of history, as interpreted by the present state of these studies, is far more probable, than that of some of the modern critics which ignores the Pentateuch and the Book of Joshua for the time which they claim to represent."

In this notice it has been the intention to give a general idea of the book, and not to criticize it. It would be a really difficult matter to find fault either with the idea of the book or its execution. In the small amount of space at their disposal the authors have condensed a large amount of most important information. One cannot think that there is a minister or an intelligent layman of any denomination, who ought not to read this most valuable and most timely book.

AMONG THE HOLY HILLS.*

This book traverses ground that has been repeatedly gone over by many able men, for it is an account of a journey from Jerusalem to Beirut by way of Samaria, Galilee, Damascus and Lebanon. The volume is not a learned treatise discussing questions of disputed sites and details of Scriptural geography. But, as Dr. Field says in the preface, he has tried to bring home a handful of wild flowers of Palestine, and he has certainly succeeded in giving his readers a most delightful bouquet.

He is decidedly a model traveler, observing closely the country, the people and their customs, while he readily uses the interesting features to photograph the whole scene most vividly and picturesquely before the reader's mind.

The account of the celebration of the Holy Week at Jerusalem, the chapter on the Samaritans at Nablous, and the description of the valley of Coele-Syria are excellent. One lays the book aside with regret, only wishing the journey might have lasted longer.

SACRED STREAMS.†

The design of this book is to provide Sunday reading for young people. The plan of the book is a good one, and its purpose and spirit admirable. Its value is very much weakened, however, by the way in which the author treats the Scripture narrative. In the description of the Garden of Eden his imagination has run wild, and he paints an impossible scene in such a vivid way as would

* AMONG THE HOLY HILLS. By Henry M. Field, D.D. Pp. 243. 5½x8¾. New York: C. Scribner's Sons. 1884. \$1.50.

† SACRED STREAMS. The ancient and modern history of the rivers of the Bible. By P. H. Gosse. Pp. 435. 5¼x7½. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1883.

lead its readers to suppose it real; and this fault is characteristic of other parts of the work. Again, the author's interpretation of some passages is more than doubtful, and he indulges in spiritualizing to an alarming extent. In the latter part of the book there are not so many of these blemishes, and the narrative is made much more interesting. The Mission of Jonah related in connection with the river Hiddekel is very good, though not adapted to the young.

The archæological and historical matter is generally reliable and well put; and it seems a pity that there is so much to condemn. The style of the book is such, however, that it will not reach those for whom it was intended, as its language is not plain enough, and its rhetoric is too flowery to be pleasing, while the moral reflections are generally introduced in a way which repels rather than attracts.

EVENTS AND EPOCHS IN RELIGIOUS HISTORY.*

This book contains the substance of the lectures delivered in the Lowell Institute during the winter of 1880. The ground covered extends from the early beginnings of Christianity as seen in the Catacombs at Rome down to the time of John Wesley and the foundation of Methodism.

Mr. Clarke has in these lectures, as in his other works, shown his power of seizing upon the salient points of a subject and presenting them vividly to the mind. The topics discussed are the Catacombs, Buddhist Monks and Christian Monasticism (these being peculiarly good resumés of their subjects), the Mystics, the Huguenots; while the lectures include short sketches of Augustine, Anselm, Bernard, Jeanne D'Arc, Savonarola, Loyola, George Fox, and John Wesley.

The lectures are fresh, interesting, and most instructive, giving the results of the latest investigations in the respective topics studied. The book is gotten up in the best manner, and presents an attractive appearance. The fourteen plates which illustrate the work, particularly the reproductions of the Catacombs, the Buddhist Rock Temples, and the plans of the Christian Monasteries, add much to its value. It is a valuable contribution to the study of comparative religions.

➤SEMITIC➤AND➤OLD➤TESTAMENT➤BIBLIOGRAPHY.◀

AMERICAN LITERATURE.

WOOD, E. M., D. D., How the Bible was Made. Cincinnati: <i>Walden & Stowe</i> , 1884. 12mo. Pp. 263.....	\$1.00
ELLIOTT, CHAS., D. D., Mosaic Authorship of the Pentateuch. Cincinnati: <i>Walden & Stowe</i> , 1884. 12mo. Pp. 273.....	\$1.00
RANKE, LEOPOLD V., Universal History; the Oldest Historical Group of Nations and the Greeks. Edited by G. W. Prothen. New York: <i>Scribner & Welford</i> . Pp. 501.....	\$4.50

* EVENTS AND EPOCHS IN RELIGIOUS HISTORY. Being the substance of twelve lectures delivered in the Lowell Institute, Boston, in 1880. By James Freeman Clarke. Boston: *James R. Osgood & Co.*, 1883. Pp. xx., 402.